明日泥棒

1

外薗昌也 原作

別天荒人 作画

If you could start your life over again,
what would you want to do?
I'd want to see Ashita one more time.
ACT.1
Time to Say Good-bye

明日

1

外薗昌也 原作
Masaya Hokazono

別天荒人 作画
Bettencourt

ACT.1
Time to Say Good-bye

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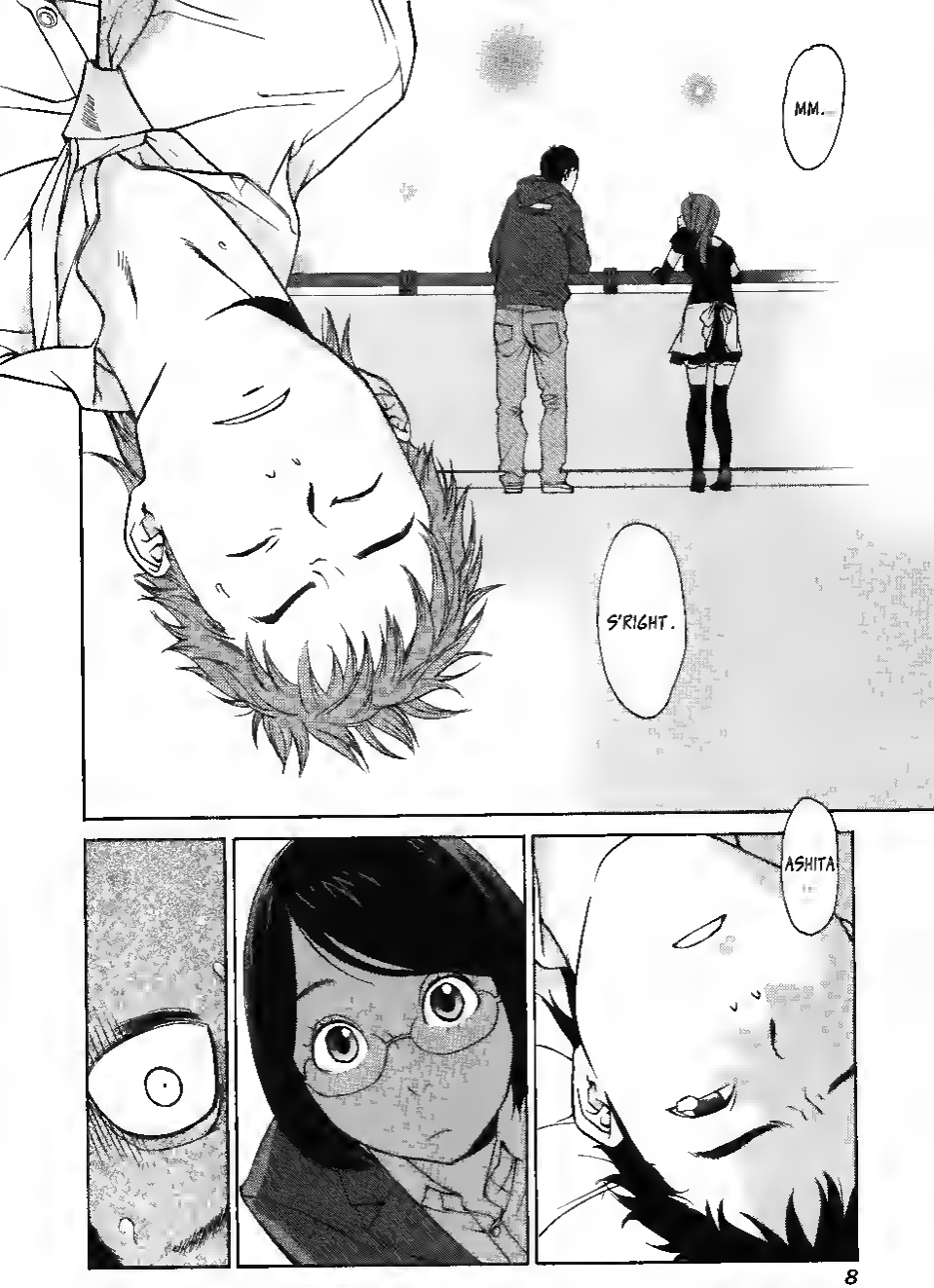
この作品はフィクションです。
実在の人物 団体 事件などには、
いっさい関係ありません。

This is a work of fiction
Blah blah blah

Under that bright, sunny sky in July
THIS WORLD IS FULL OF UNFATHOMABLE THINGS...
She Ashita Tendou declared with absolute certainty
THAT'S WHY IMAGINATION IS SO IMPORTANT!
AS LONG AS YOU KEEP YOUR MIND OPEN...

AS LONG AS YOU KEEP YOUR MIND OPEN,
YOU CAN ALWAYS LEAD AN EXCITING LIFE!
So cute...
I... I SEE...
AND AFTER THAT—
YEP! THAT'S RIGHT!

THE WORLD WILL BOW DOWN TO US!


MM.
S'RIGHT.
ASHITA

W-WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
MURO!
...
WAAAAAHHHHH!
HUH?
SENPAI, ARE YOU STILL HALF-ASLEEP? YOU TOLD ME TO WAKE YOU UP AT THIS TIME
OKAY, SEND IT TO ME NOW!
HEY! WHERE'S THAT DATA?
HURRY IT UP!
OH...!

OH YEAH ...
I'M AT WORK ....
sigh
MY BAD ...
SENPAI, HAVE YOU BEEN LIVING IN THE OFFICE ALL THIS TIME?
YEP... PROBABLY THE FOURTH DAY TODAY ....
DAAAA AAANG ...
HOW FAR ARE WE ON DEBUGGING THE PROGRAM?
ABOUT ONE-THIRD DONE
OH. ...

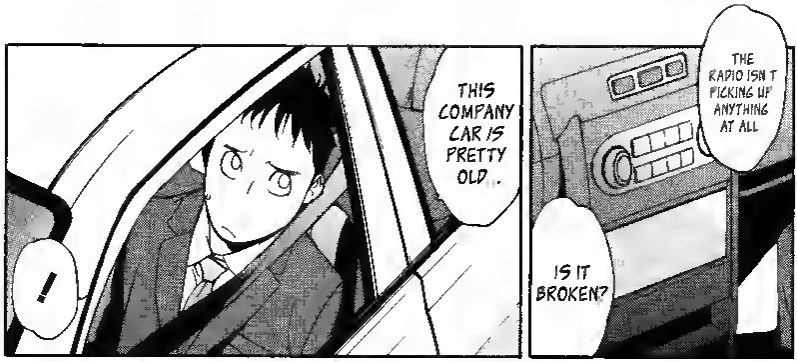
This is my job after all...
so it can't be helped.
HAVE YOU NOT BEEN SLEEPING? ARE YOU EATING PROPERLY? YOU'LL MESS YOUR BODY UP LIKE THIS...
IT CAN'T BE HELPED
Geez what do you care
WHA?
YOU SURE DO LOVE THIS JOB!
A'IGHT
OFF TO WASH MY FACE! LATER!
I-I MEAN, YEAH! MY WORK IS MY LIFE!
AS IF
AS
AS IF?

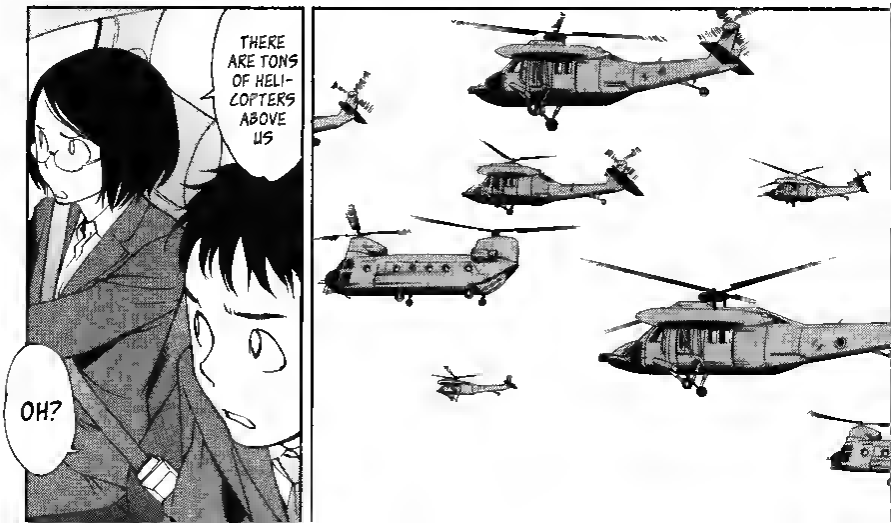
Man, what the hell am I doing?
If this job were more interesting, I could probably put up with it
Day after day, all I'm doing is pushing myself to my limits...
but honestly, I can't take this any—
MIYASAKO~! THE DIRECTOR WANTS TO SEE YOU~!
AH! THERE HE IS!
!

I CAN'T DO IT ...
I KNOW YOU'RE SPREAD THIN WITH OTHER TASKS ALREADY, BUT...
C'MON... PRETTY PLEASE?
YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE HERE QUALIFIED TO TAKE ON THIS NEW PROJECT!
MIYASAKO-KUN, I'M BEGGING YOU!!!
I HOPE TO STRENGTHEN THE COMPANY WHILE WE CAN!
THE COMPANY IS FINALLY IN THE BLACK AGAIN!

Ashita ..
Seriously what the hell am I doing
FINE ...
REALLY? YOU'RE WILLING TO DO IT!?
AS EXPECTED OF THE AMAZING SENPAI!
EVEN WITH SO MUCH ON YOUR PLATE ALREADY, YOU STILL TOOK ON ANOTHER PROJECT FOR THE SAKE OF THE COMPANY!
HUH? WHAT?

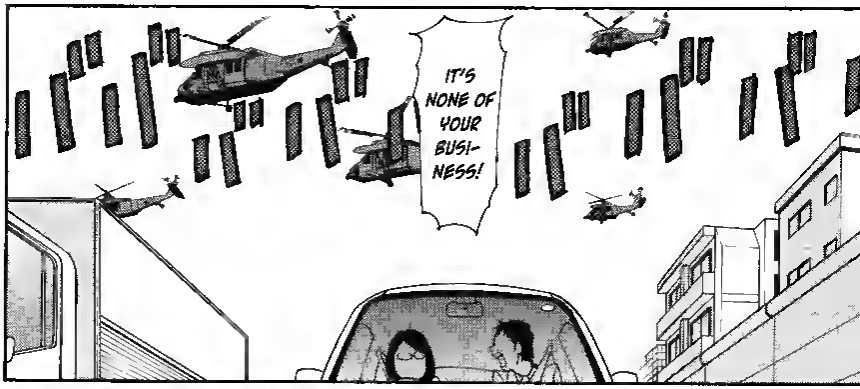
I'M NOT DOING IT FOR THE COMPANY
YOU EX-AGGERATE TOO MUCH, MURO!
AW, THERE'S NO NEED TO BE SO MODEST~
YOU'RE REALLY THAT AMA-ZING
WHERE ARE WE?
STILL IN SETA-GAYA
WE CAN BARELY MOVE IN THIS TRAFFIC JAM
WHAT?
More like a lack of resolve
I'M GONNA BE LATE TO THE MEETING!
I'VE ALREADY CALLED THEM
AH... THANKS FOR DOING THAT...
I LEARNED IT ALL FROM YOU, SENPAI!
HOWEVER... A CONGESTION AT THIS HOUR IS PRETTY WEIRD
IS THERE AN ACCI-DENT UP AHEAD?
NO IDEA...

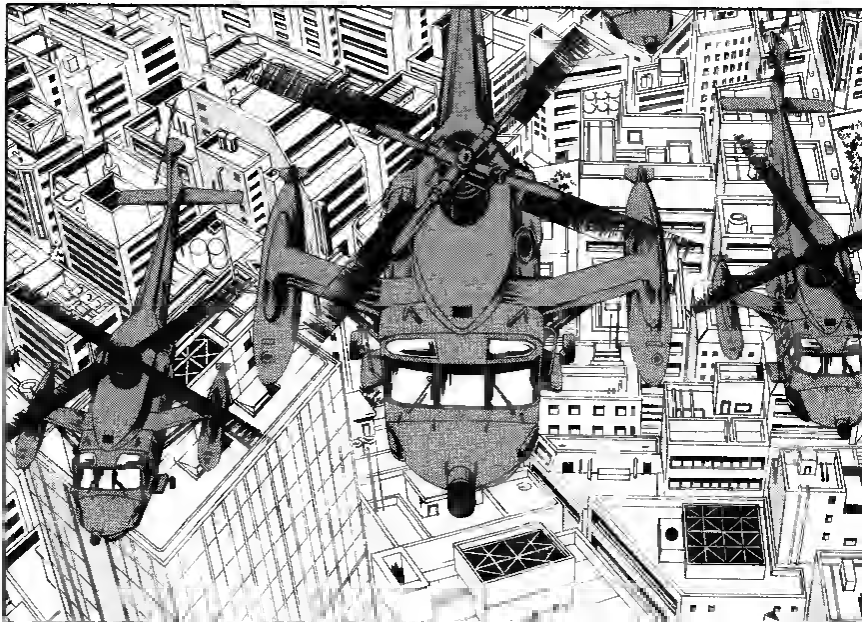

!
THIS COMPANY CAR IS PRETTY OLD..
IS IT BROKEN?
THE RADIO ISN'T PICKING UP ANYTHING AT ALL

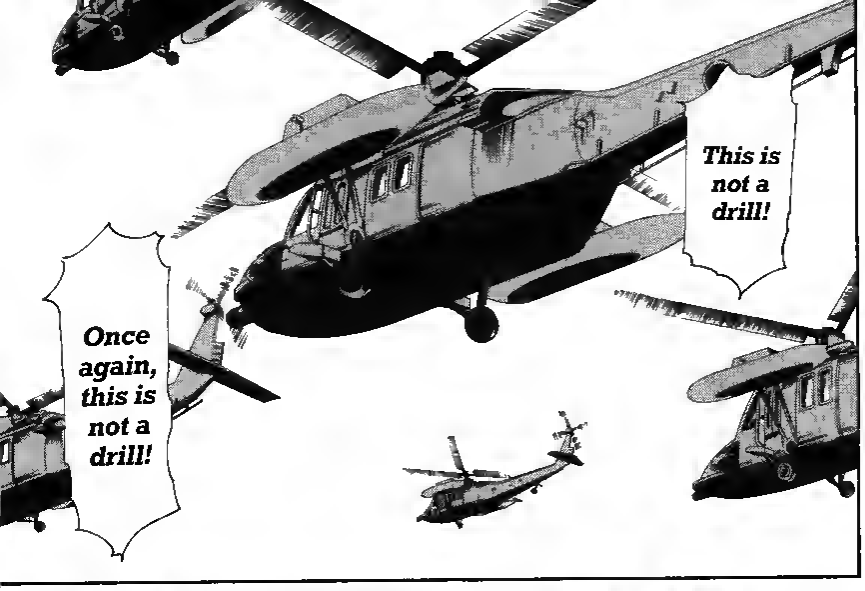

OH?
THERE ARE TONS OF HELI-COPTERS ABOVE US

MUROI...
PSYCH!
Maybe it's a coup d'état?
BACK AT THE WARE-HOUSE, YOU WERE CRYING IN YOUR SLEEP...
WHAT THE HECK IS "ASHITA"?
SENPAI...
Frickin' kids these days...
(Geez, I sound like an old geezer)
NOW WHAT?

BINGO!
...!!!
UWAA!!
YOUR EX?
TH... THAT...


IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSI-NESS!

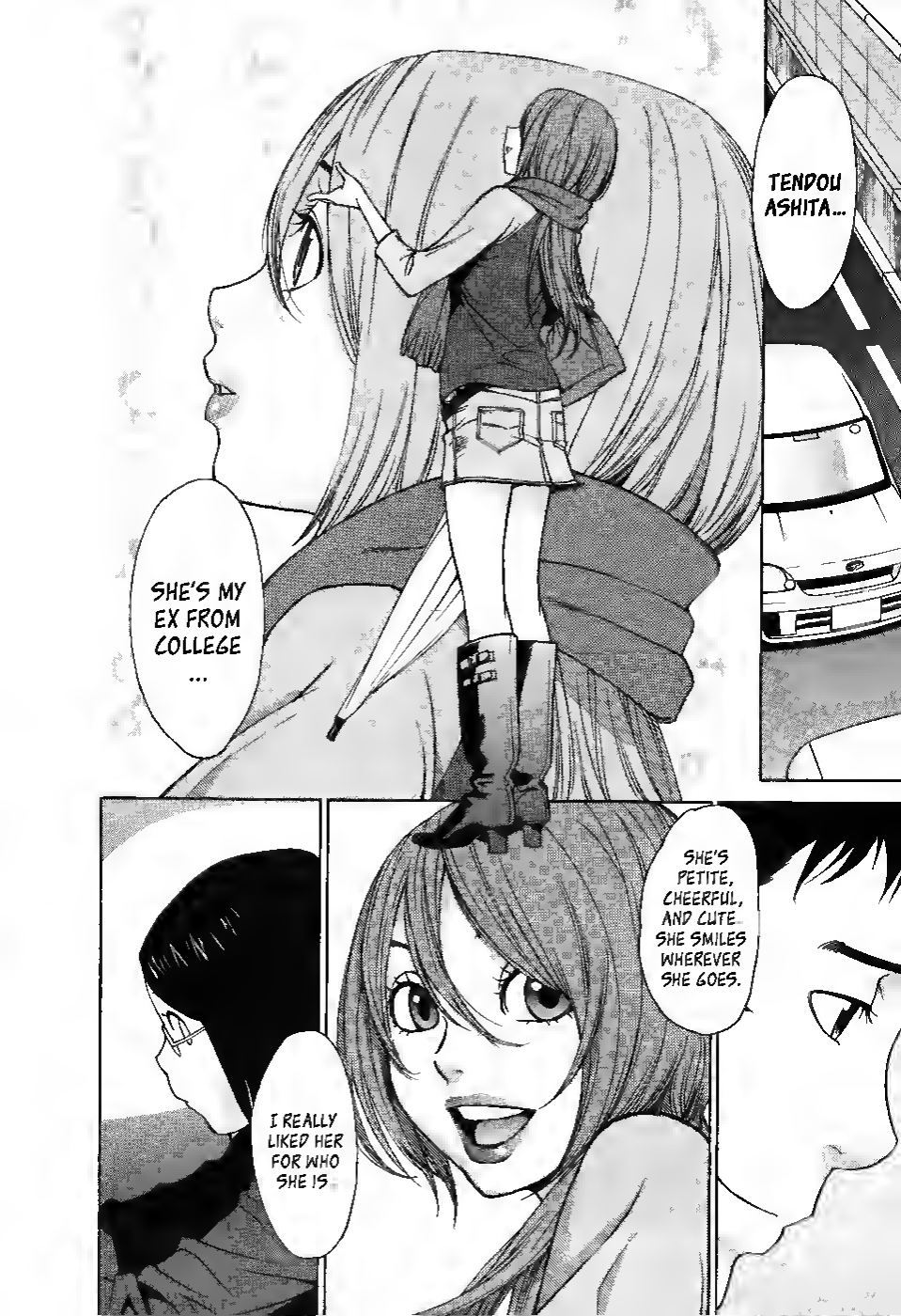



This is not a drill!
Once again, this is not a drill!

ETA one minute till it reaches Tokyo!
Moving at 3 km/h, 20° east of north!
It's approximately 1000 m in diameter!

OH SHI—
OH!
UNBELIEVABLE!
IT'S HUGE!
I CAN SEE IT!

WHA...
WHAT THE!?
THAT THING'S HUGE!!


TENDOU ASHITA...
SHE'S MY EX FROM COLLEGE ...
SHE'S PETITE, CHEERFUL, AND CUTE. SHE SMILES WHEREVER SHE GOES.
I REALLY LIKED HER FOR WHO SHE IS.

I LOVED HER SO MUCH, AND YET...
DURING THE FALL OF OUR THIRD YEAR...
So what do you think?
Kyouichi?

Cute, isn't it?
I plan on wearing this to Tokyo Big Sight this year
Have you decided what you're gonna wear yet?

Ashi-taa~
How's the job-hunting coming along?
uuu.
Kyouichi, what's wrong?
Ah—
Does this costume not suit me?
.....
I-I've been looking...
oh ho ho ho
LOOK ME IN THE EYE AND SAY THAT AGAIN!
When you said you had something important to tell me, I thought it was about the job search... and here I find out that you just wanted to show me your new cosplay...
We'll be graduating from college next year...
We're about to be thrown into the world!

So you can't go on thinking so much about your anime or manga all day!
Jobs are hard to come by these nowa-days!
How are you going to get by if you can't adjust to the world?
The fun times are coming to an end!
I've been accom-modating to your hobbies
But I just can't take it any-more!

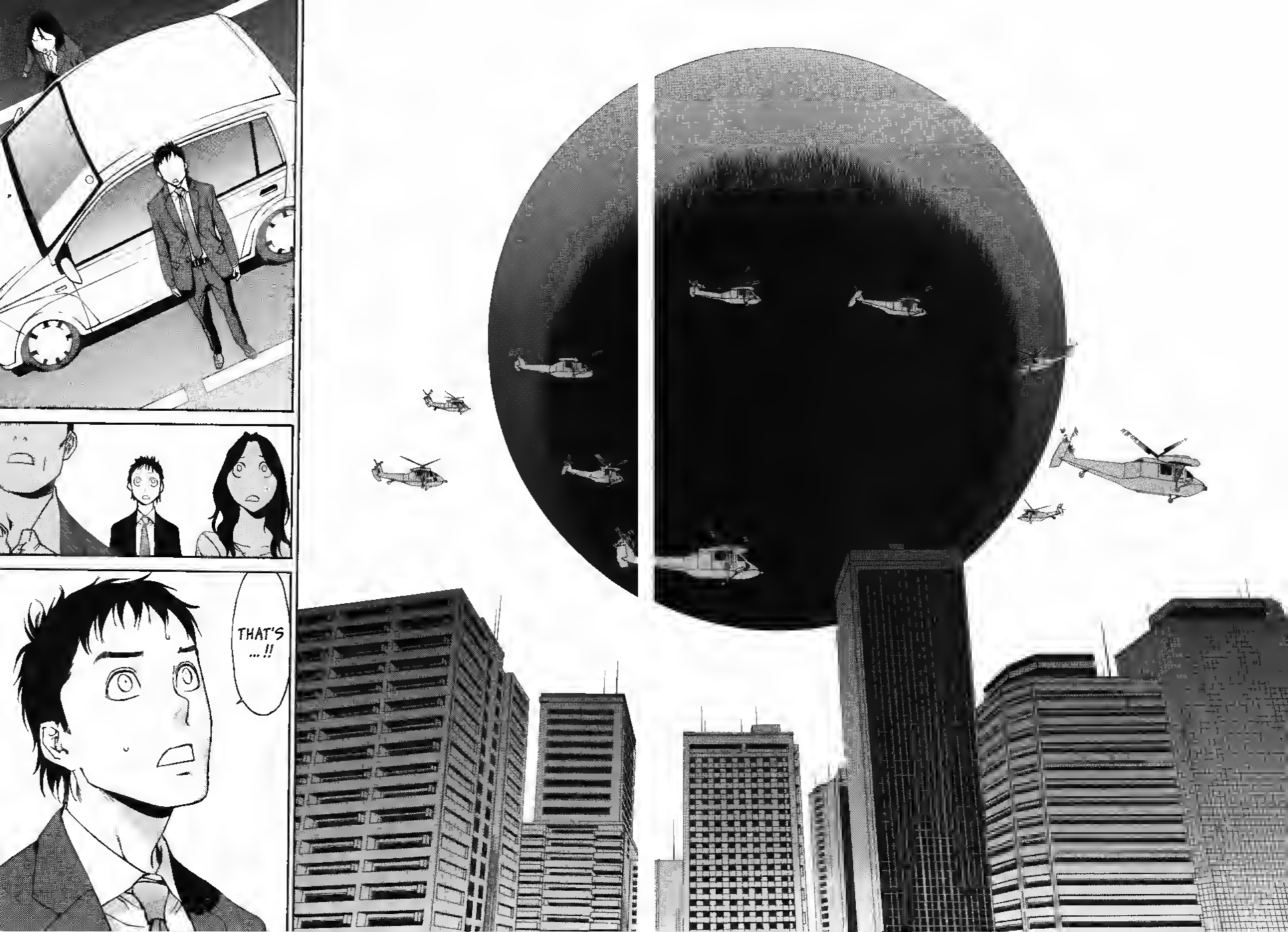
ASHITA, GROW UP ALREADY!
I've always thought you were just like me...
...thought I was just like you...?
Ashita?

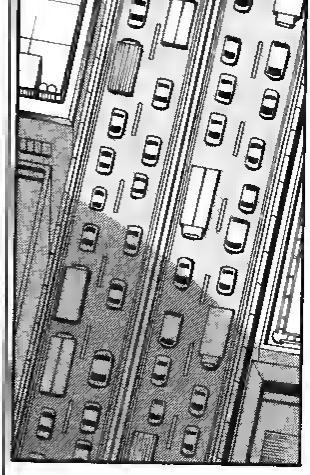
I... don't want to grow up...
What?
I WANT TO KEEP ON LIVING THIS WAY!
I DON'T WANNA GROW UP!
ゴゴ
オオ
You're still saying that at a time like this...
A-Ashita...

How are you going to get by?
It'll be fine!
I'VE SAID IT BEFORE!
THE WORLD WILL BOW DOWN TO ME!
Ashita...

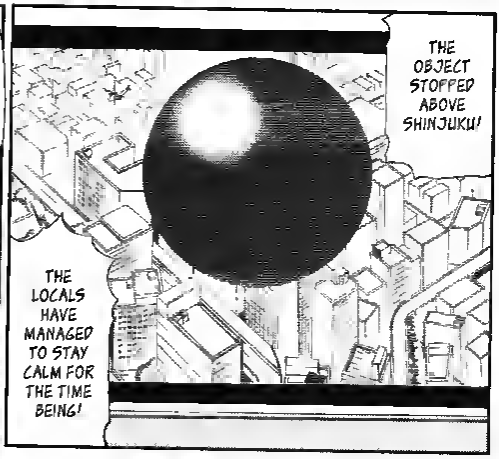
I FIGURED SHE WAS JUST SPOUTING NONSENSE THEN...
WELL, I MEAN, I STILL THINK SO...
BUT SOME-TIMES...
WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER EVER SINCE THAT TIME...
I FEEL THAT MAYBE SHE MIGHT HAVE BEEN RIGHT ALL ALONG...
THAT'S NOT TRUE AT ALL!
REALITY IS MORE IM-PORTANT!
SENPAI, YOU'RE RIGHT!
MUROI

WAAAHHHH!!!
I'M RIGHT
IS... IS THAT SO...
YEP YEP! YOU JUST HAVE TO BELIEVE IN YOURSELF! YOU ARE RIGHT!
R-RIGHT...
WHAT THE...
WHAT'S THIS?


THAT'S ...!!



THIS PHOTO WAS TAKEN BY THE SELF-DEFENSE FORCE'S PLANES.
PRESENTLY, THE MEDIA IS UNABLE TO BROADCAST ANYTHING. SO THIS IS THE ONLY THING WE CAN SEE


THE OBJECT STOPPED ABOVE SHINJUKU!
THE LOCALS HAVE MANAGED TO STAY CALM FOR THE TIME BEING!

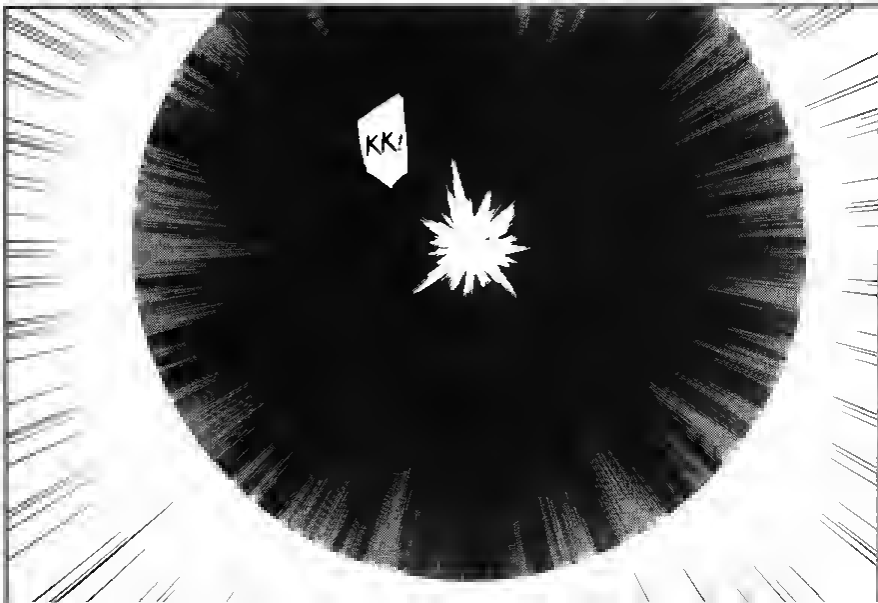
WHAT DOES THE U.S. RECOMMEND WE DO?
AH—
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT IT WOULD APPEAR IN TOKYO?
HARD TO BELIEVE THIS IS A LIVING ORGANISM AT THIS POINT...
LET'S JUST HOPE THAT ITS SOLE PURPOSE HERE...
THEY SAID TO AVOID PROVOKING IT WHILE IT'S HERE, AND TO JUST... WATCH...
IS THAT SO...
THIS IS THE THING THEY SAID CAME FROM OUTER SPACE...
BUT IT'S SO BIG...

IS ONLY TO OBSERVE ...
IT'S TOO DANGER-OUS OUT HERE
GET BACK IN THE CAR
LOOK, IT'S A UFO!
WOW! WHAT A SIGHT!
THAT'S PRETTY SCARY!
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
BUT WHERE ARE WE GONNA GO?

SENPAI?
I THOUGHT OF WHAT ASHITA SAID BEFORE AND IT'S TRUE
SO I'M REALLY HAPPY!
EHH? WAS IT SO SCARY YOU'VE LOST YOUR MIND?
W-WHY ARE YOU SMILING LIKE THAT?
OH YOU...
HUH?
HAPPY? ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT THE UFO?
YEP.

ASHITA USED TO ALWAYS SAY,
"THE WORLD IS FULL OF UNFATHOMABLE THINGS!"
BACK THEN, I THOUGHT SHE WAS JUST KIDDING AROUND, SO I DIDN'T TAKE HER SERIOUSLY
I JUST WANTED TO HURRY UP AND GRADUATE AND "GROW UP"
BUT AFTER I "GREW UP," I REALIZED HOW PAINFUL THE REAL WORLD TRULY IS
AND ALSO, "IF YOU CAN KEEP YOUR MIND OPEN, THEN YOU CAN ALWAYS LEAD AN EXCITING LIFE!"
HAH... SHE SOUNDS LIKE QUITE THE ROMANTIC.

THAT'S WHY I WANT TO SEE HER ONE MORE TIME, TO APOLOGIZE TO HER,
AND TELL HER, "YOU WERE RIGHT!"


KK!

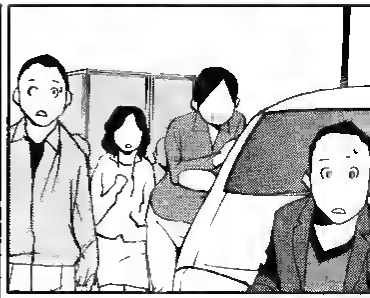
BZZ!

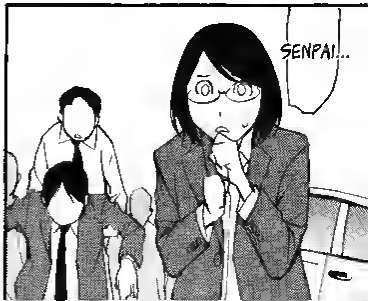
THE OBJECT FIRED A BEAM OF LIGHT AT THE HIGHWAY!
IT HIT THE MOST CONGES-TED PART OF THE JAM!
NO WAY!
ARE YOU KIDDING ME!?
Is this... an alien invasion?
MR. PRESI-DENT?

WHAT THE...
SENPAI!
WHAT'S WITH THIS LIGHT!?
ARG!
CAN'T OPEN MY EYES!
THERE'S SOMEONE STANDING THERE
THAT'S—

A-
ASHITA...

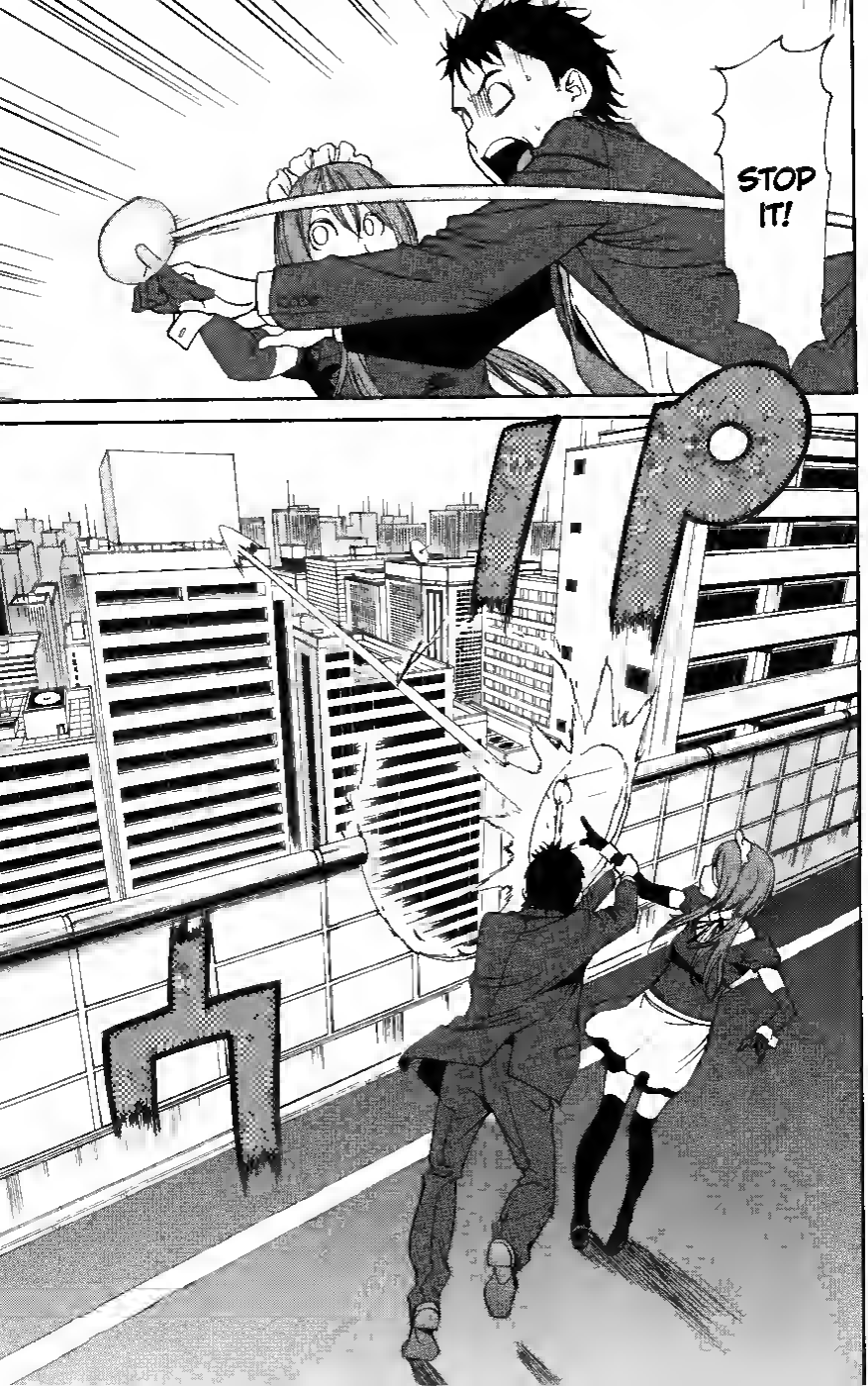
HOW ...?




SENPAI...

ASHITA
WHY ARE YOU HERE
NO, THAT DOESN'T MATTER
I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY
DON'T YOU REMEMBER ME AT ALL?
IT'S ME! MIYASAKO KYOUICHI!

Z...
GO AWAY, CHOPPERS!
SHUT UP ALREADY! THIS IS A REALLY IMPORTANT MOMENT!
IP
IP


STOP IT!

ドドォォォン

ゴゴゴ
ハタッ
ASHITA?

I'VE COME TO CHANGE THE WORLD!
WHA?

明日泥棒 (あした どろぼう)

外薗昌也 & 別天荒人

VOLUME ONE CHAPTER ONE

Welp, it's been a pretty shitty week. Actually, on second thought, it's been a pretty shitty summer "vacation" overall—fingerquoted 'cause some people have no respect for my free time nor personal space. Ugh.

So, anyway. *Ashita Dorobou*. Blazed through all four volumes in a couple of hours earlier this week. Picked it up for fun while waiting for Key to finish redraws for *Ratman*. This is supposed to be a sci-fi romantic comedy—or something. It's... well, whatever, pidgeonholing is overrated. It's good enough for me to violate my self-imposed moratorium on new comic projects, so that should tell you something, no?

For the sharp-eyed readers: Yes, the color spread was taken from the Taiwanese edition (thanks, Chiang) because I'm not in the mood to do any redraws myself. Not in the mood for a complete translation-proofing run either, but I did check most of the stuff against the original Japanese and ran a couple of key lines past umeboshi. Maybe I'll fix them for the volume batch release, but no guarantees. For the sake of completeness, the Taiwanese title translates to *Seeing Ashita Again* (no, not *Goodbye Ashita*), which I think makes a hell lot more sense than the Japanese title. But what do I know, I'm just an illiterate child who's still trying to make sense of verb conjugation.

Una cosa más. Someone bought out the last copy of the second volume of *Ashita Dorobou* from Books.com.tw before I did. Yeah. Beaverfuckles. Now I have two titles on the out-of-print list. (The other is Soul Mate Tourist, which OMFGG is translating.)

明日泥棒
アシタ ドロボウ

THIS HAS BEEN A
Mixini Studios
PRODUCTION

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